BENGALURU, TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

# Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 34 | Min 22 | Humidity 58% Partly cloudy Sensex 58,964 | Nifty 17,674 | Gold 52,385 | Silver 67,635 | Dollar 75.89 | Euro 82.54 | GBP 98.90

### Frequent dumping of trash near Tataguni estate along Kanakapura Road — a vital stretch of elephant corridor — is posing threat to wildlife movement in Bengaluru outskirts

# JUMBO TRUNKS IN TRASH DUMPS

## '10 km of Kanakapura stretch strewn with garbage on either side'

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The elephant corridor in Bengaluru near the Bannerghatta National Park, one of the core areas of jumbo movement, also helping in securing a future for elephants, has been neglected time and again — first, encroachments were identified in the elephant corridor and now it is noticed that a lot of trash is being discarded and left unattended near the Tataguni estate along Kanakapura Road which is a part of the elephant corridor, that could pose an existential threat to the wild animals.

Garbage has been dumped across the stretch; many passersby have noticed the trash thrown in the corners of the road; they even said the stretch has been in this dire state for over two years. The authorities have not done anything to get it cleared, according to local residents.

Waste materials such as plastic bags, discarded fruits from nearby fruit shops, meat, bottles, food packets and cloth material have been dumped on the stretch.

Conservationists pointed out that spots like these

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

**"Elephants have been using this stretch to move from Bannerghatta National Park to Savandurga Reserve Forest. We need to protect this place.**

— Vinod Jacob, Namma Bengaluru Foundation

# State of play

## Playground designed in a way to push children to think-out-of the box

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A government school in Bengaluru is using recyclable and sustainable elements in a unique and colourful playground for schoolchildren with minimal costs. Yuvak Vikas Mandal High School in Sanjay Nagar, Marathahalli, has a new, unique and colourful playground developed on its premises which is now turning the school into a model for other government schools.

While most school playgrounds have a list of common items, the school now displays a wide range of sustainable playground items that can be easily interpreted by children in their own way. The playground is designed to push children to think out-of-the-box.

This type of playground is ideal for schools that have minimal space as the team designs and constructs playable installations with multiple usages.

The playground has a swing with the seat made of tyres, heaving hoops, that can be used as a tunnel or to hang upside down, a rocket wriggler made of three tyres installed in a suspension, and a momentum see-saw — unlike a typical one, this one is a longer plank that can be used as a teaching aid as well.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

## 3 THINGS TO DO

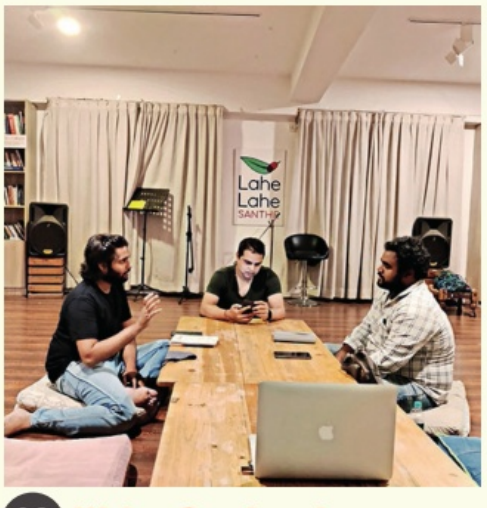
### 01 Cartoons from Calcutta

Check out a special exhibition of cartoons that are a tribute to some of Calcutta's famous cartoonists. From Sukumar Ray to Gaganendranath Tagore, to contemporary names like Rituparno Basu and Anup Ray, the exhibit is a homage to the rich legacy of Calcutta's connection with caricatures.
**Where: Indian Cartoon Gallery, Midford Garden**
**When: Till April 23, 10am – 6pm (except Sundays)**

### 02 Susegad

The Gallery at Maya, a Slow Living Restaurant and Art Gallery in Jayanagar presents "Susegad" a collection of Abstract Paintings by Darpan Kaur, curated by Samira Sheth. Susegad is a word synonymous with Goa, and it loosely translates to a relaxed pace, of going with the flow and living in the moment. This series pays homage to all of that. With rough textures and free marks, the artworks stand for the freedom to truly be yourself. They lead one to tranquility and a sense of joy.

**Where: Maya, Jayanagar, 5th Block**
**When: Till April 30, 12 pm – 11 pm**
**Contact: 7483871410/ 9731755535**




### 03 Write Out Loud

Lahe Lahe brings to you an evening of baring your soul on paper. Every Tuesday, participate in a heart-plucking session of poetry, and good company. Come, share your poetry in a circle and unwind.
**Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar**
**When: April 12, 7.30–9.30 pm**
**Contact: 9886294444**

# IN A PICKLE

**Indian Institute of Horticulture and Research is cultivating more than 200 varieties of Appemidi, a popular type of mango used in pickles**

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The humble achaar, or pickle, is an integral part of every Indian meal, and whether you're eating at home or at a fancy gourmet restaurant, the ubiquitous achaar is a must.

For achaar connoisseurs and cooks, the Appemidi (midi translates to tender mango in Kannada), a variety of mango which is a favourite for making pickles, is very popular for the uniqueness of its flavour and taste. The Indian Institute of Horticulture and Research (IIHR), Bengaluru, has been surveying, conserving and cultivating the Appemidi. For Bengalureans, if they want to spot more than 200 varieties, they could only get to see it at the IIHR campus.

Such is the demand for this pickle, that production varies from 4,000 to 5,000 tonnes per year, translating to revenues worth Rs 90 to 100 crore per year. Karnataka occupies a unique position with respect to the diversity of mangoes used as pickles. The state is famous for its tender mango fruits, which is used for pickling and Appemidi is the king of all tender mangoes as far as its use in pickle industry is concerned.

**Production for this variety of mango goes up to 4,000 – 5,000 tonnes per year, and generates revenue worth Rs 90 – 100 crore**

Appemidi pickles are the most sought after, as they remain fresh for years. In the land of their origin, they are also used to make gojju (a kind of chutney), sasuve (a different preparation), appehuli, chutney and thambli, which is a good digestive.

M Shankaran, Principal Scientist, IIHR said, "We collected, and conserved the horticulture crop and further surveyed the Appemidi mango. Currently, we have over 200 plus varieties of Appemidi on the campus. The demand of it has been increasing every year. Many farmers come to procure it, while our major focus is conservation of the species and categorisation of the mangoes and then supplying it to the farmers for commercial cultivation."

These tiny unique mangoes are grown near Sirsi, Sagar, Siddapur, Thirthahally regions. The mango's unique size and taste makes the pickle one of the best in India. The fragrance is so strong that adding just a few of them to an ordinary pickle can change its taste and smell.

Shankaran added that it takes about four years for the harvest. Once the tree is grown, it can even live up to 45-50 years. It is a revenue generating crop, as the appemedi pickles are very popular in places like Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu."

#### Origin

Appemidis are mainly grown in forests and also on the riversides. It is a native of the forests of the Western Ghats, where there are natural plantations of centuries-old mango trees.

#### Need for conservation

"Many of the good trees are old and on the verge of death. In a few places they are over-harvested and branches are cut to harvest fruits. Therefore, there is an urgent need for identifying these trees to be conserved. Realizing the economic importance of 'Appemidi', many private nurseries have now started grafting with their own names. This has added to the confusion about their nomenclature," added Shankaran.

# Note these changes, but use ink sparingly

**Ukraine-Russia war costs students in the city as stationery prices rise during exam season**

The Russian invasion of Ukraine is making things difficult for citizens here. After edible oil, fuel and building materials, stationery is becoming expensive now. The prices of books, bluebooks, notebooks, pens, pencils, paper among other products have seen five to 30 per cent hikes in prices.

"Most prices of stationery products increased last week. We observed decreased sales after the hikes. The prices of pens and paper rose by at least 30 per cent. Perhaps, more difficult days await, considering geo-political issues," a stationery shop employee said.

Meanwhile, students in hostels are facing difficulty while procuring essential items. A pack of A4 sheets costs Rs 300 instead of Rs 400. Ball point pens cost Rs 8 each instead of Rs 5. It may be noted this is exam season.

"Each examination requires a minimum of four pens... We are taking up part time jobs and struggling to survive... We can buy only two pens now. If we could afford stationery products (at exorbitant prices) why would we study in government colleges?" a student remarked.

**Writing just got a lot more costly & traders are worried**

Many organisations were distributing notebooks, pens among other stationery products earlier. But due to the pandemic-induced price hikes there are very few donors distributing stationery products to the students now.

"We're trying to help students. Earlier some organisations were donating books and stationery. But this has drastically reduced. We are trying to help students beyond our capacity. Many students are unable to afford essential items," said Venkatesh R, a teacher.

A parent BM spoke with told this reporter, private schools are taking advantage of the hikes.

"They have increased the fees and prices of books. No MRPs on books and other products that but cost a bomb. Parents will suffer now. We are already facing difficulties due to the pandemic, now this is sure to burn more holes in our pockets," said Nagaraj, who is trying to provide his son an education in a private school.

**-Prakash VL**

# A war of words between top cop, State Home Dept

## Road rage issue puts the heat on men in khaki; CID investigates

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The State Home Department has been caught in the middle of a controversy regarding the JJ Nagar murder case where a 22-year-old man was stabbed and killed by three men from the minority community in the wee hours of April 4 over an alleged road rage incident. At present, CM Basavaraj Bommai has ordered the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) to conduct an independent probe.

Clockwise from top: Cops at work in the city; Araga Jnanendra faces criticism for his comments (file pic); the murder victim Chandru; city top cop Kamal Pant

The state Home Minister Araga Jnanendra, told the media on April 5 that according to his sources in JJ Nagar, Chandru, who was a Dalit youth, was stabbed for not speaking in Urdu. Jnanendra was quick to retract his statement soon after the city police commissioner Kamal Pant declared that the murder was triggered over a road rage incident.

Now, the city police commissioner has been dragged into a controversy by the BJP National General Secretary CT Ravi, and the State General Secretary Ravi Kumar N who alleged that Pant had not only lied about the JJ Nagar murder case, but also indirectly forced the Home Minister to retract his statement. This development has not gone down well with both the home minister and the city police commissioner.

Kamal Pant, on Saturday, armed with the video statement of Simon Raj, the eye-witness in Chandru's murder case, met with the state top brass DG-IGP Praveen Sood and explained the incident's threadbare details to him.

In the wee hours of April 4 around 2.30 am, Chandru and Simon Raj -- who were friends -- had gone to a restaurant in Hosaguddadahalli to eat. As the shop was closed, they were returning when their bike brushed with another which was ridden by a person named Shahid. Heated arguments ensued which led to a quarrel that ended with a stab on Chandru's right thigh while the assailants fled the spot.

A day after the incident, a section of BJP functionaries claimed that the case details mentioned that the bike-borne assailant spoke to Chandru and Simon Raj in Urdu and when Chandru replied in Kannada, the accused allegedly did not understand the local language (Kannada).

A few vernacular media houses who also interviewed Simon Raj, stated that the accused did not force them to speak in Urdu.

**The JJ Nagar incident happened around 2:30am on April 4 near a restaurant in Hosaguddadahalli**

BJP's state general secretary Ravikumar N reiterated that there was some truth to the Urdu angle by the statements of the victim Chandru's mother, aunt and other family members.

According to police commissioner Pant, the accused, Shahid, along with two friends stabbed Chandru on his right thigh and all of them fled the spot. "Chandru was then shifted to Victoria Hospital where he succumbed later. The three accused were arrested in a matter of hours," Pant added.

However, the matter did not end there. On Saturday, BK Hariprasad, leader of the opposition in legislative council criticised Jnanendra for his communally coloured remarks on the murder and sought his resignation calling him unfit to occupy the Home Minister's position. Priyank Kharge, a Congress legislator also dared the state government to suspend the police commissioner if he had lied.

Following this, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai intervened and ordered an independent investigating agency to probe further.

# We now have a plan to beat the heat

With the mercury touching 33 on Monday, Bengalureans are coming up with every possible way to stay cool. ACs, cooling fluids, and ice-creams are everyone's best friends, and power backups are a must in every home. The Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), in association with the State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC), has come up with a State Heatwave Action Plan for 2022.

The plan is in conformity with the revised heat wave preparedness guidelines prepared by the National Disaster Management Authority, which was issued in 2019, KSDMA Commissioner Manoj Rajan said.

The plan has been updated on region-specific dos and don'ts and also sets out medium and long heat wave risk reduction measures based on the global best practices, he added.

"The plan has been shared with all deputy commissioners and other stakeholders. The plan chalks out roles and responsibilities of each department and other stakeholders. The action plan aims to provide a framework for implementing heat response activities in a coordinated manner," Rajan said in a statement.

According to him, the action plan has six chapters that deals with definition, vulnerability, impacts, preparedness and mitigation measures, roles and responsibility of various departments, and the dos and don'ts for heat wave.

The district administration has been asked to ensure hospitals and other strategic locations are stocked up with oral rehydration solutions and medicines, Rajan said.

The government is ensuring water availability at strategic places such as markets and places of large public gathering through government agencies and also by involving NGOs.

**Special measures would be taken to ensure availability of clean drinking water for animals**

Bus stands and other community buildings are identified as cooling places, Rajan said, adding special measures would be taken to ensure clean drinking water for animals.

The heat wave situation is being reviewed in the Weather Watch Committee headed by the Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner and necessary instructions are given to the Deputy Commissioners on the prevailing and forecasted temperature, he said. **PTI**

KEEP CALM, EXAMS ON

## Your 2nd PU doubts cleared

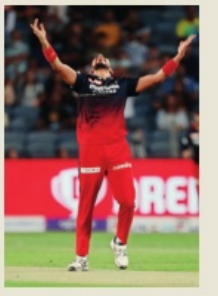
**Dear readers, we know you may have many queries regarding the 2nd PU exams. Don't worry we've got you covered. Just whatsapp us if you want any query answered by an expert or email us the questions. Connect with us on this number: 9591233247 and this email id: mybangaloremirror @timesgroup.com.**

**We shall carry the questions and answers shortly.**

## SSLC results in May second week

The SSLC exams that were held offline concluded on Monday. Last year, only two-paper exams were conducted due to Covid pandemic, while this year, all the six papers were conducted. After the exams ended, Primary and Secondary Education Minister BC Nagesh said, "The evaluation process will begin from April last week and the results are likely to be announced by May second week. The supplementary exams will be conducted in June last week."

## RCB's Harshal Patel returns home after sister's death



Royal Challengers Bangalore pacer Harshal Patel has left the IPL bio bubble to return home after his sister's tragic death.

Sources in RCB said Harshal exited the bubble on Sunday after the game against Mumbai Indians on Saturday. It is not yet clear for how long Harshal will remain unavailable fto play in the championship, although, it is certain he will not play in the match against Chennai Super Kings on Tuesday.

It is a big blow to RCB as Harshal Patel was IPL's leading wicket-taker in the 2021 season and took 32 wickets. He also excelled in their previous match against Mumbai Indians and took two wickets for 23 runs.

It is not yet clear for how long Harshal will remain unavailable for the RCB team and is certainly not available for the game against Chennai Super Kings on Tuesday.

The news comes as a big blow for the Bengaluru team as Harshal Patel was IPL's leading wicket-taker in the 2021 season and took 32 wickets. He also excelled in their previous match against Mumbai Indians and took two wickets for 23 runs.

# Snakes can't take the heat

## As summer pushes reptiles out of burrows, rescuers say people mustn't scare, harm them; best to call professionals

This is the mating season for certain snakes, including the King Cobra, so they are spotted outside more often

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

With summer setting in, the number of snake rescues in the city have increased. Snakes have been spotted near compounds of homes, vacant sites and in bushes. Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has been attending around 20 calls in this regard each day in each zone.

On Sunday, a resident of Indiranagar called the BBMP helpline to inform he had spotted a snake, below a staircase. The resident was very worried and scared as he had children at home and asked the officials to arrange a rescue immediately.

BBMP wildlife rescuers have been receiving many such calls from other localities including Rajajinagar, Banaswadi, Koramangala, Yelahanka, KR Puram and HSR Layout too.

A Hisss Mohan, who is a wildlife warden at BBMP, told BM, "We have been receiving many calls at day and at night. People spot snakes in drains or at garbage dumping spots and call us. It's difficult to rescue snakes in drains. Many times, before the rescuer reaches the location, the snake disappears. Hence, we focus on rescue missions where snakes are found inside houses or in compounds or garden areas."

Mohan pointed out, snakes generally exist outdoors too, but in summer due to higher temperatures, they move around more to find cooler spots.

He also said that it is mating season for some.

"The number of King Cobra rescues is large as it is mating season for them. The females emanate a scent to attract the males during this time."

He added, the snakes go to places with more rats as rats are their favourite prey.

Rescuers BM spoke to said rodents, reptiles and animals that live in burrows step outside during the summer as it is difficult to stay burrowed inside due to the heat. They added, during monsoon too, when their burrows are flooded they cannot stay in and tend to move around.

BM found, many spotting snakes tend to panic and try to harm them or try doing something themselves to shoo the snakes away. But rescuers said it is dangerous to do so as snakes could react badly and end up biting.

"We need to create a distance – atleast a distance of 10 to 20 feet – from the snake. It is important to call a rescuer who will handle it professionally. Many times, people gather around the snake and this petrifies it. One must leave it alone and act calmly during such situations. It is also important to keep our surroundings clean to keep snakes away," said a rescuer.

**Venomous or not**

- **Russell Viper:** venomous
- **Rat Snake:** non-venomous
- **Cobra:** venomous
- **Common Krait:** venomous

> **Many times, people gather around the snake... this petrifies it. One must leave them alone and act calmly during such situations**
>
> –a rescuer

KAUSHIK JN

Party workers gathered at Freedom Park on Monday

# Cong protests against rising prices

The Congress on Monday staged a protest in Bengaluru against the Centre on the issue of price rise.

The Congress leaders are likely to attack the ruling BJP government in the state for encouraging Hindutva forces which are trying to create rift in the society, according to sources.

The Congress has charged that the prices of essential commodities such as petrol, diesel, CNG, LPG, building materials and chemical fertilizers have gone up causing severe hardship for the common man.

Congress president DK Shivakumar and opposition leader Siddaramaiah participated in the protest.

Congress already staged a protest regarding price rise in district and taluk headquarters on April 9.

Many Congress workers gathered for the protest at Freedom Park. –IANS

**whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247**

**Problems in your area?**
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

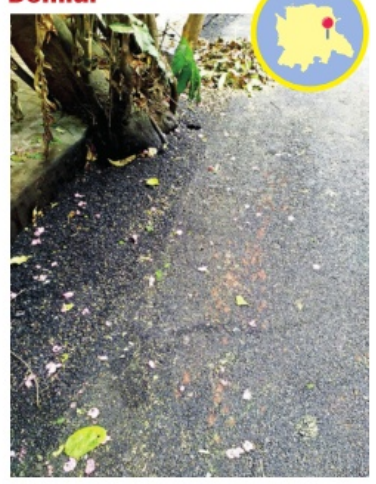
## Small business plea

**Chikpet**

Residents said the MLA must ensure that this spot covered with garbage gets cleaned up. They said, the stench from the waste is bothering shop owners, employees and customers.

## Tar bit too much

**Domlur**



Roots of a tree have been completely covered at the recently asphalted 4th Main. BBMP must leave some space around trees to let the roots receive water.

## Smoke 'em out

**Austin Town**

Folks have been burning garbage in Austin Town in the BDA Complex, across the Neelasandra Bus Stop. The authorities concerned must find and fine the culprits.

# THE MODEL DONOR

## 55-yr-old becomes one of the few women to have donated over 100 units of blood

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Asha Suranarayan, a 55-year-old grandmother of one, says she has been rolling up her sleeves to donate blood since she was 24. Asha is one of the few women blood donors who have crossed the donation of 100 units of blood.

"I clocked 101 units on Sunday (April 10) after I donated whole blood at a hospital blood bank. People still believe that women may become weak and anaemic if they donate blood. I want to shatter this myth and spread awareness about the importance of blood donation among women," said Asha.

While Single Donor Platelet (SDP) transfusion therapy is a sought-after therapy in many cases to cure people suffering from various infections, Suryanarayan says many hospitals do not allow women to donate plasma.

"Until April 2020, I had donated only whole blood. SDP is a process of around two hours for double donation and one has to lie down in one position for close to two hours. A single vein draws the blood and puts it back after extracting plasma. However, I have been turned down by many hospitals that say women are not efficient enough for such donations. I started SDP in 2020 and have done 44 such donations so far. This perception has to be changed," said Asha.

Asha's first blood donation was in 1994 when she received a request from a hospital owing to her rare blood group. "Back then I did not know the importance of blood donation. However, a city hospital had advertised a requirement and I got a call as my blood group is a rare A negative. This is how my number got circulated to other hospitals and I started getting calls," recalled Asha.

**"People still believe that women may become weak and anaemic if they donate blood. I want to shatter this myth and spread awareness about the importance of blood donation among women**

It was some time during 1996 that she realised the importance of blood donation and after that, Asha says, there was no looking back. "The requirement was for a cancer patient at Bangalore Oncology centre. I realised that he was in a bad condition as the previous blood transfusion did not suit him. I donated a few units and when I went back to the hospital the next day, an old woman came running to me with bundles of money and fell at my feet thanking me for saving her son's life. That episode changed my outlook toward blood donation," says Asha.

However, the road to donation was not an easy one for women even then. With little encouragement from family, Asha had to quietly sneak out of the house every time there was a call from a hospital.

"All such blood donation requests used to come on the landline and my parents or in-laws never passed on the message in time. They believed that a woman donating blood will face an adverse health impact. It's only when I passed on my office landline number that I started donating regularly," she says.

Asha says her motive is to support cancer patients through blood donation as and when required.

# CM: Won't tolerate violence

Breaking his silence over recent communally-charged developments in the state, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has said that violence or taking law into the hands will not be tolerated. "Ours is a government formed according to the Constitution. We are working with the spirit of law, order and equality. There is no problem in spreading one's thoughts. But the government will not tolerate if one takes law into one's hands or indulges in violence. This message has been sent clearly," Bommai said. He was speaking to media persons at the Udupi helipad. "Our government is functioning according to the laws. It is our duty to protect the law," he said. Replying to a question about Hindu Task Force being formed in Mangaluru against Love Jihad, Bommai said, there are laws to deal with everything. "Some of these laws were passed by the previous governments. We are not formulating any new rules."

### 'Our work should speak'

Reacting to opposition's charge that the Chief Minister has turned dumb for the developments in the State, Bommai said, his actions are speaking. "We should not speak. Our work should speak. We know what decisions should be taken and what action to be taken at what time. I need not learn any lessons from them. These are the people who dropped cases at the government level against those who were facing direct charges of murder?" Bommai asked. "Ours is a peaceful progressive State. We know how to protect this State. We will show it through our deeds," he said. When asked whether the outfits disturbing peace would be banned, Bommai said, "You will see it in the coming days." **BMB**

# What's the hurry? Keep your masks on

## Health Minister urges all to brace for impact — wear masks, take required doses of vaccine

With a steep fall in covid cases, masks too seems to have fallen off our mindspace — but the State Government is in no mood to relax the mask rule. Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar who chaired a Covid Technical Advisory Committee meeting on Monday said the members have suggested that masks continued to be worn as a precautionary measure.

"Please ensure that all your vaccination doses are completed at the earliest," urged Dr Sudhakar. The Minister told reporters there was an increase in XE variant covid cases in eight countries including China, Hong Kong, South Korea, UK and Germany and also in Delhi and Haryana in the country. He said TAC has suggested thermal screening, strict surveillance, mandatory quarantine for a period of 7-10 days for passengers arriving from these eight countries. The government will soon release guidelines regarding this.

Additionally, he urged people to wear masks, stating that IIT Kanpur has predicted another covid wave around June and July. He also stressed that many haven't taken their second shot of the vaccine. "Around 4.77 crore (98%) of people under the 60+ category have taken the second dose of vaccine and only 49% of people have taken their precautionary dose. I urge everyone to please complete all doses," he said.

He said that among the 15-17 age group, 25,11,407 out of 30,00,000 had taken the vaccine that is 79% and only 65% had taken the second dose. Among the 12-14 age group, only 69% have received the vaccine.

The Health Minister said the government has got complaints about some hospitals overcharging vaccines, and that won't be tolerated.

### Suggestions of the Committee

- Special surveillance of International passengers coming from China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Vietnam, Japan, Thailand, Germany, Italy, Australia, UK
- Thermal screening, checking of full vaccination certificate at the airport and daily tele-monitoring for covid symptoms and testing of the returnees from the high risk countries and genomic surveillance of those who test positive
- Advisory on face masking in public areas. It is recommended to wear face mask in public areas particularly in closed spaces, crowds and during close conversations
- Ongoing clinical surveillance at Victoria Hospital
- Surveillance in animals for covid. It is recommended to initiate this in collaboration with Institute of Animal Health and Veterinary biological, Hebbal,
- Ongoing sewage surveillance. ICMR in collaboration with BBMP is conducting sewage surveillance for covid-19 and this shall be correlated with covid-19 testing results in the corresponding areas

### 34 new cases

Around 34 new covid cases were reported on Monday. Of these, 32 were from Bengaluru and two from Dharwad. **– Prakash VL**

# Elephant in the garbage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

should be maintained well, in order to create a clean space and luscious green environment for the animals to move about in a healthy habitat. Moreover, dumping of garbage, especially discarded food materials, like fruit, would attract tuskers in search of food.

Recently, an incident of an elephant hit by a BMTC bus near Devika Rani Roerich Estate along Kanakapura road was reported. As the elephant was crossing the road, the driver of the bus couldn't apply brakes as he failed to see the approaching animal; only when the jumbo got closer the driver realised, but it was too late.

"Over 10 km of Kanakapura stretch is strewn with garbage on either side of the road. Parts of it come under the elephant corridor. Although the garbage is not dumped in the forest area, it is frequently spotted on the road; many elephants tend to move here.

There have been several sightings of elephants on this stretch. The jumbos can even come in search of food. The dump yard may have broken glass or plastic which could pose a threat to the animals. Once they come near the road and try to cross to the other side, it poses danger as vehicles keep moving frequently on the stretch.

Even though boards are installed explaining it is an elephant corridor, not to overspeed and so forth, many still continue to. Despite the fact that there are two to three protected forest patches close by, there is a lot of urbanisation around the place," Abdul Aleem, president of Changemakers of Kanakpura said.

> **When elephants eat plants, they disperse the seeds. They help create and sustain green spaces. It is important to protect and save our wildlife** – Nishanth

Vinod Jacob, general manager of Namma Bengaluru Foundation pointed out that Kanakapura Road once had lush green landscapes and lakes, but is now littered with heaps of garbage. "Cities cannot use buffer zones of forests as garbage dumps. Local residents alleged that trash trucks regularly empty the waste on either side of the road. Today, the whole stretch looks like a trash dumping site. We often stress upon the need to protect this unique region which holds great ecological importance as this is also an elephant corridor; elephants have been using this stretch to move from Bannerghatta National Park to Savandurga Reserve Forest. We need to protect this place and take immediate action to stop littering in the wildlife area," he noted.

The area of dumping is right outside BBMP's Hemmigepura, which is ward no. 198. Some citizens alleged that as the last ward, to transport waste to the disposal centres would require time and travel. Hence the BBMP vehicles have been dumping the garbage on road sides, they said.

Environmentalist Vijay Nishanth had brought the issue to the notice of the former BBMP special commissioner for Solid Waste Management Sarfaraz Khan. As Khan began to check upon the issue, he was transferred from the post.

"The place is an important elephant corridor and we should not disturb it. The habitat needs to be clean and clear for the jumbos. When elephants eat plants, they disperse the seeds. They help create and sustain green spaces. It is important to protect and save our wildlife," said Nishanth.

However, Aleem pointed out that as the locality comes under the gram panchayat, the officials have left the garbage unattended.


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personal
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I, Saswat Satprem, S/O Sandeep Acharya born on 21-02-1984 residing at Block 2A 505, CLPD Arcadia, Gunjur Palya Main Road, Chikkabellandur, Carmelaram Post, Bangalore have changed my name to Sashwat Satprem Acharya vide affidavit dated 27-Jan- 2022 at Bangalore.

I, Steffi Antoinette Auckland Chiodetti R/a No.G-005, Yugal Mansion, Basavasamithi Layout, Near Nanjappa Circle, Gurudarshan Layout, Thindlu, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-97 have changed my name to Steffi Auckland Chiodetti affidavit dated 08.04.2022 notary K.G Pemmaiah, B.lore.

I, PREETHA MOOTHEDATH, W/o, RAJESH and Residing at No.B3-428, Ghataprabha National Games Village, Koramangala, Bangalore-560047 have changed my name to PREETHA RAJESH vide affidavit dated 08.04.2022 sworn before notary D S Chandra kanth, Bangalore.

I, Abdul Lateef Shukur R/a No.07, 3rd Cross, Lalbagh Fort Road, Doddamavalli, Bangalore-560004 have changed my minor son name from MOHAMMED ZULKAR NIEN to MOHAMMED ZULKAR NAIN affidavit dt 11.04.2022 notary V. Rajashekhara, B.lore.

I, Palleboina Venkata Siva prasad R/o D701 , Candeur Rise appt ,Gunjur Road Varthur Bangalore-560087 have changed my minor son's name from Palleboina Mokshith Anjani Sreekar to Palleboina Mokshit Anjani Sreekar .

I, Mahesh Behrani R/o 6041, Tata New Haven, Off Tumkur Road, Dasanapura, Sheshagiri Rao Palya, Bengaluru Karnataka - 562162 have changed my minor daughter's name from Navya Behrani to Naira Behrani

I, Arati Kalagi W/O, Prashant Kumar R/o 1/71, Ainapur, Tq: Chincholi, Dist: Kalaburagi, Pin- 585306, Karnataka have changed my name to Arti for all purposes.

I Sulaiman Sharieff Rahman S/O, Rahman Sharieff R/o No 3/1 19th Main 36th Cross 1st Stage 5th Block Hbr Layout Bengaluru 560043 have changed my name to Sulaiman Sharieff

I Yashodamma Venkataramiah W/O, Venkataramaiah R/o No 305, 26th Cross, 9th Main, Bsk 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560070. have changed my name to Yashodamma Venkataramaiah

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# A smart playground, why not?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We build sustainable playgrounds by upcycling products. Our playground uses scrap tyres, metal and oil drums, recyclable plastic and stainless steel chains. These are user-centric and different from typical playgrounds. Using details collected from our initial surveys like space available, age group and expectations of teachers and students, we suggest installations that would utilise the playground space in the best way possible. Our installations are aimed at providing holistic development of the child and aid in honing their motor skills," said Swetha Manivannan of NGO Anthill creations that designed the playground.

In addition to building an innovative playground, it's an environment-friendly space which reuses elements. It's also a safer option as it uses more used tyres and only utilises metal for the framework, which is often not the case in commonly found playground equipment like see-saws and slides. The project was completed by the NGO within a matter of three days at an estimated project cost of Rs 2 lakh.

Commenting on the playground, senior teachers at the school said for the past 15 days since its installation, children have been extremely happy.

"Due to covid-19, children were forced to sit at home for almost two years, playing on their phones with not enough care for their physical well-being. Schools have started reopening for the past four months now. We have been trying to put them back on the routine of physical exercises. The playground is an interesting way to engage with students," said Nagaraj, a senior teacher at the school.

Nagaraj added the school is also working with the NGO to deploy uniforms in schools. "We are planning to issue uniforms in two colours. In addition, we also require fans in rooms and at least two computers," he told BM.

KAUSHIK JN

**Jayanthi prep**

As the city prepares to celebrate Ambedkar Jayanthi on Thursday, April 14 — the birthday of the architect of the Indian Constitution Babasaheb Ambedkar — BM spotted his statue getting a touch-up. This year will be the 131st birth anniversary of Ambedkar.

# More power to Karnataka

## State ranks eighth in State Energy and Climate Index (SECI). While it is not a front-runner in the index yet, it is second among states in achievers' list

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Karnataka ranked eighth in the country in State Energy and Climate Index (SECI). Various DISCOMs have scored 56.8 while the overall SECI score is 43.8 for the state. The final SECI scores which were released on Monday showed that among larger states, Gujarat, Kerala, Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, and Maharashtra fall under the category of front-runners. Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar are achievers. The rest are aspirants.

The highest score, 50.1, was achieved by Gujarat. Kerala and Punjab scored 49.1 and 48.6 respectively. Although Gujarat topped the index, its performance in environmental sustainability and new initiatives requires improvement. The SECI score for states such as Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh was observed to be between 40 and 45.

NITI Aayog developed SECI, which measures states' efforts in improving the energy sector. The index has been designed to assess and identify the scope for improving the performance of states and to help them efficiently manage their energy resources. Aayog officials said, the ranking will provide states and concerned central ministries or departments with a ready reckoner of valuable information which in turn will empower them to formulate and implement suitable policies.

The index has a preliminary set of 27 key performance indicators (KPIs) covering six parameters: DISCOM's performance, access, affordability and reliability of energy, clean energy initiatives, energy efficiency, environmental sustainability and new initiatives.

NITI Aayog developed SECI, which measures states' efforts in improving the energy sector

**The highest score, 50.1, was achieved by Gujarat. Kerala and Punjab scored 49.1 and 48.6 respectively**

"The ranking is based on efforts in improving energy access, energy consumption, energy efficiency and safeguarding the environment. Since DISCOMS are an important link in the entire energy value chain, their performance has been assigned with higher weightage (40 per cent) in the overall index. Aspects of financial viability and performance of DISCOMS have been taken into consideration to encourage competition among states. Other parameters such as access, affordability and reliability of energy, clean energy initiatives, energy efficiency, environmental sustainability and new initiatives were assigned 15, 15, six, 12 and 12 per cent respectively," the report stated.

India is the third-largest energy consumer in the world. Its per capita energy consumption is one-third of the world average. The energy sector contributes to 75 per cent of its total greenhouse gas emission. These rankings will help policymakers and state authorities identify leaders and the laggards in the energy sector and fine tune policies by benchmarking against the best. As per India's estimates, most buildings that will exist in 2040 are yet to be built. This provides a huge potential for energy conservation in the building sector, stated the report.

IN BRIEF

## HAL's pact with Nigerian Army

The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited on Monday said it has signed a contract with the Nigerian Army for imparting Phase-II flying training on Chetak Helicopter for six officers of Nigerian Army Aviation. This marks the continuation of the contract signed in April 2021 for imparting Phase-I flying training to six Nigerian Army Aviation officers, which was successfully executed in December 2021, the Bengaluru-headquartered company said in a statement.

The Phase-II flying training on Chetak Helicopter is scheduled to commence on Monday and is planned to be completed by December 2022.

As part of the training, 70 hours flying training would be imparted for each Nigerian Army Aviation Officer, it was stated.

The contract was signed by General Manager, HAL Helicopter Division, BK Tripathy and Defence Adviser, High Commission of Nigeria in India, Commodore Anthony Victor Kujoh, at a programme held at Helicopter Division here.

Tripathy said the platforms such as the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) and Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), with a wide range of capabilities, can be of great strength for the Nigerian Army.

"Nigeria would not only like to further enhance the business relationship with HAL for training, but also towards asset acquisition," said Cmdre Kujoh. **–ANI**

## SC seeks steel ministry's stand on iron ore export ban

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the union steel ministry to clarify its stand on a plea by miners from Karnataka, seeking a direction to lift the ban on iron ore export from the state.

A bench headed by chief justice NV Ramana sought the ministry's reply on whether sufficient iron ore is available for the domestic market, and whether it is feasible to permit the export of iron ore mined from the state?

In April 2013, the top court imposed the ban on export of iron ore from three districts in the state and fixed the maximum permissible annual production limit.

The bench, also comprising justices Krishna Murari and Hima Kohli, noted that the mines ministry has supported the demand of the miners, however petitioner NGO Samaj Parivartan Samudaya, represented by advocate Prashant Bhushan, has objected to it, claiming that the steel ministry has not made its stand so far.

Dushyant Dave, representing the miners, pressed that this banning of exports from Karnataka should be modified and there is no need for an affidavit from the steel ministry and the ban should be lifted. **–IANS**

# Oh fish! Microplastics in Cauvery causing harm

## IISc study shows pollutants causing growth defects in fish

Pollutants like microplastics may be causing growth defects among fish in the Cauvery river, including skeletal deformities, a new study reveals.

Published in the journal Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety, the study was led by Upendra Nongthomba, Professor of the Department of Molecular Reproduction, Development and Genetics (MRDG) at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

Nongthomba, talking about his love for fish, said: "Over the years, I have cherished going to the backwaters of the Krishna Raja Sagara [KRS] Dam in Mysuru and having fried fish on the Cauvery river bank," he said.

But in recent times, he has been noticing physical deformities in some fish and wondered whether the quality of water may have something to do with it. "Water is essential for everyone, including animals and plants. When it is polluted, it is capable of causing diseases, including cancer," adds Abass Toba Anifowoshe, a PhD student in Nongthomba's lab, and the first author of the study.

Nongthomba's lab conducted a comprehensive study of pollution at the KRS Dam and its potential effects on fish. They collected water samples from three different locations with varying speeds of water flow like fast-flowing, slow-flowing, and stagnant, since water speed is known to affect the concentration of pollutants.

In the first part of the study, Nongthomba's team analysed the physical and chemical parameters of the water samples. All but one of them fell within the prescribed limits. The exception was dissolved oxygen (DO), whose levels were much lower than they needed to be in samples collected from the slow-flowing and stagnant sites. Water from these sites also had microbes such as Cyclops, Daphnia, Spirogyra and Spirochaeta and E.coli, well-known bio-indicators of water contamination.

As water is essential to all beings, polluted water is capable of causing diseases

> **"The concentrations we have reported may not be alarming yet for humans, but long-term effects can't be ruled out**
>
> –Upendra Nongthomba, study lead

The researchers used a technique called Raman spectroscopy, to detect microplastics - minute pieces of plastic often invisible to the naked eye - and toxic chemicals containing the cyclohexyl functional group (a functional group refers to atoms in a compound that determine its chemical properties). Microplastics are found in several household and industrial products, and chemicals containing the cyclohexyl group, such as cyclohexyl isocyanate, are commonly used in agriculture and the pharmaceutical industry.

In the second part of the study, Nongthomba's team investigated whether pollutants in water could account for the developmental abnormalities seen in wild fish. They treated embryos of the well-known model organism, zebrafish, with water samples collected from the three sites, and found that those exposed to water from the slow-flowing and stagnant sites experienced skeletal deformities, DNA damage, early cell death, heart damage, and increased mortality. These defects were seen even after microbes were filtered out, suggesting that microplastics and the cyclohexyl functional groups are responsible for the ailments in the fish. **–IANS**

## City gears up for Khelo India University Games

With just two weeks left for the most-awaited Khelo India University Games 2021, the Government of Karnataka, along with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, is all geared up to host the biggest national sporting extravaganza post pandemic, here with Jain University as the host.

The second edition of the Khelo India University games was supposed to be held in the year 2021 but was postponed to 2022 due to the Covid -19 in the country. The event, which aims to create a platform for youth to showcase their sporting excellence and provides universities from across India a chance to showcase their supremacy outside the education curriculum, is slated to begin on April 24 and conclude on May 3.

Over 4,500 participants representing around 190 universities will vie for top honours in 20 different sports including indigenous sports like Mallakhamba and yogasana being introduced for the first time in Khelo India University Games 2021. **–IANS**

## 3 BJP teams to begin State tour from Apr 12

The BJP has formed three teams, led by senior leaders to travel across Karnataka from Tuesday, to prepare the ground for the state assembly elections next year, party strongman and former chief minister B S Yediyurappa said on Monday.

Making an appeal to end the flare-up of communal issues in the state, he said Hindus and Muslims should lead their lives as "children of one mother."

"From April 12 to 24, in three teams, we will be travelling across the state. BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel will be in the first team, our national general secretary (Arun Singh) and I will be together in the second team and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai will be in the third team," Yediyurappa said.

Talking to reporters here, he said this tour is aimed at strengthening the party, holding discussions with party workers for drawing up strategies and preparing for the polls.

"Such tours will continue here...in the first phase we will be travelling in three teams," he added. **–PTI**

# After week of drama, Sharif picked as Pak PM

Pakistan's parliament elected opposition lawmaker Shahbaz Sharif as the new prime minister Monday, following a week of turmoil that led to the weekend ouster of Premier Imran Khan.

But the elevation of Sharif will not guarantee a peaceful path forward or solve the country's many economic problems, including high inflation and a soaring energy crisis.

**WORLD**

Sharif, the brother of disgraced former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, won with 174 votes after more than 100 lawmakers from Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, or Pakistan Justice Party, resigned and walked out of the National Assembly in protest.

Those 174 votes _ two more than the required simple majority _ are enough to pass laws in the 342-seat assembly. If Khan's followers take to the streets, as he has vowed, it could create more pressure on lawmakers and deepen the crisis.

Khan, a former cricket star whose conservative Islamist ideology and dogged independence characterized his three years and eight months in office, was ousted early Sunday. He lost a no-confidence vote after being deserted by his party allies and a key coalition partner.

In a show of strength and a precursor to the political uncertainty ahead, Khan rallied hundreds of thousands of supporters Sunday night to protest his ouster, describing the new leadership as an "imposed government," charging they colluded with the US to oust him. His backers marched in cities across Pakistan, waving large party flags and shouted slogans promising to return him to power. The crowds were dominated by youths who make up the backbone of Khan's supporters.

Pakistan's prime minister-elect Shehbaz Sharif

The political drama began April 3 when Khan sidestepped an initial no-confidence vote demanded by the opposition by dissolving parliament and calling elections. The opposition that accuses Khan of economic mismanagement appealed to the Supreme Court. After four-day deliberations, the court said Khan's move was illegal and the no-confidence vote went on, leading to his ouster.

Khan has demanded early elections _ the balloting is not due before August 2023. He has tapped into anti-American sentiment in Pakistan, accusing Washington of conspiring with his opponents to topple him. That conspiracy theory resonates with his youthful base, which often sees the U.S. war on terrorism after 9/11 as unfairly targeting Pakistan.

Khan claims Washington opposes him because of his independent foreign policy favoring China and Russia. He was criticized for a visit he made on February 24 to Moscow, where he met with President Vladimir Putin as Russian tanks rolled into Ukraine. The US State Department has denied any involvement in Pakistan's internal politics.

The opposition coalition consists of parties that cross the political divide, from the left to the radically religious. The two largest parties are the Pakistan Muslim League, headed by Sharif, and the Pakistan People's Party, co-chaired by the son and husband of Benazir Bhutto, the former PM, who was killed in 2007.

Shahbaz Sharif has served three times as chief minister of Pakistan's largest, most influential Punjab province. His son, Hamza, was elected last week as the new chief minister by the Punjab parliament. Khan's party is challenging that, and the younger Sharif is yet to be sworn in. **–AP**

**HEALTH TIP:** If your sleep is getting disturbed by twitchy legs, low levels of magnesium could be the problem

If you're constantly feeling tired and out of breath – especially if you are a woman or are following a vegan diet – this could mean your iron levels are low

# With a pinch of SALT

## Why it is healthier to cut down on salt intake

Despite most of us knowing we should cut down on salt, many of us consume almost twice the recommended daily maximum per day.

Salt has been used in food preservation for centuries, and idioms like "worth your weight in salt" indicate how valuable it was for preserving food to ensure survival. Salt draws moisture out of foods, which limits bacterial growth that would otherwise spoil food and cause gastrointestinal illnesses. Today, salt is still added as a preservative, but it also improves the taste of foods.

Salt is a chemical compound made of sodium and chloride, and this is the main form in which we consume it in our diet. Of these two elements, it's the sodium we need to worry about.

### So what does sodium do in our bodies?

The major concern of consuming too much sodium is the well-established link to the increased risk of high blood pressure (or hypertension). High blood pressure is in turn a risk factor for heart disease and stroke, a major cause of severe illness and death. High blood pressure is also a cause of kidney disease.

The exact processes that lead to high blood pressure from eating large amounts of sodium are not fully understood. However, we do know it's due to physiological changes that occur in the body to tightly control the body's fluid and sodium levels. This involves changes in how the kidneys, heart, nervous system and fluid-regulating hormones respond to increasing sodium levels in our body.

Maintaining tight control on sodium levels is necessary because sodium affects the membranes of all the individual cells in your body. Healthy membranes allow for the movement of: nutrients in and out of the cells

signals through the nervous system (for example, messages from the brain to other parts of your body).

Dietary salt is needed for these processes. However, most of us consume much, much more than we need.

When we eat too much salt, this increases sodium levels in the blood. The body responds by drawing more fluid into the blood to keep the sodium concentration at the right level. However, by increasing the fluid volume, the pressure against the blood vessel walls is increased, leading to high blood pressure.

High blood pressure makes the heart work harder, which can lead to disease of the heart and blood vessels, including heart attack and heart failure.

While there is some controversy around the effect of salt on blood pressure, most of the literature indicates there is a progressive association, which means the more sodium you consume, the more likely you are to die prematurely.

### What to watch out for

Certain groups of people are more affected by high-salt diets than others. These people are referred to as "salt-sensitive", and are more likely to get high blood pressure from salt consumption.

Those most at risk include older people, those who already have high blood pressure, those who have chronic kidney disease, those with a history of pre-eclampsia (high blood pressure during pregnancy), and those who had a low birth weight.

It is important to be aware of your blood pressure, so next time you visit your doctor make sure you get it checked. Your blood pressure is given as two figures: highest (systolic) over lowest (diastolic). Systolic is the pressure in the artery as the heart contracts and pushes the blood through your body. The diastolic pressure in the artery is when the heart is relaxing and being filled with blood.

Optimal blood pressure is below 120/80. Blood pressure is considered high if the reading is over 140/90. If you have other risk factors for heart disease, diabetes or kidney disease, a lower target may be set by your doctor.

### How to reduce salt intake

Reducing salt in your diet is a good strategy to reduce your blood pressure, and avoiding processed and ultra-processed foods, which is where about 75 per cent of our daily salt intake comes from, is the first step.

Increasing your intake of fruit and vegetables to at least seven serves per day may also be effective in reducing your blood pressure, as they contain potassium, which helps our blood vessels relax.

Increasing physical activity, stopping smoking, maintaining a healthy weight and limiting your alcohol intake will also help to maintain a healthy blood pressure. Blood pressure reducing medications are also available if blood pressure can not be reduced initially by lifestyle changes.

*By Evangeline Mantzioris, University of South Australia, The Conversation*

MIRRORLIGHTS

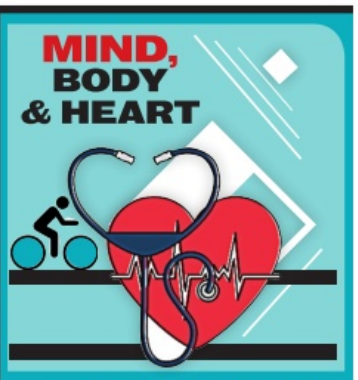
## Do you post your kids' pics on social media? This is your style

A new study led by the University of Central Florida has found that parents who post photos of their children online tend to have a more friend-like parenting style and allow their kids to use social media at younger ages.

The study was published in the journal, 'Computing Machinery'. These parents also tend to share posts beyond small networks of family and friends, regularly posting on more public networks, which raises privacy and safety concerns. The findings also showed that parents don't see parental sharing as much different from regular photo sharing and rarely ask for their young children's input.

"There is no doubt that many parents are very careful regarding what they share online about their children. And there are significant benefits to sharing photos with grandparents and groups who can offer support and help keep families connected. But we need to be aware of some of the privacy issues when sharing children's information online and conduct further research to figure out long-term impacts. This is all still so new. We're still learning," said Mary Jean Amon, an assistant professor in the School of Modeling, Simulation, and Training (SMST) at UCF who is one of the researchers on the study.

**–ANI**




## All problems solved

*Dear Coleen*

**I'd love some advice on meeting my girlfriend's parents. I'm a 32-year-old man and I've been with her nearly a year, but I'm meeting her family for the first time in a couple of weeks. I'm a bit nervous as her old man is quite a formidable guy and she's already warned me he's very protective of her and "doesn't suffer fools".**
**I'm no fool – I run my own business – but I have a son from my previous relationship and things aren't great between me and my ex. My girlfriend is 26, so I'm worried they'll see the age difference as a problem, as well as the fact that I have a child and I'm carrying some baggage from my last relationship.**
**My girlfriend's brother even warned me to "play it right" with his dad and joked that he'd run her last boyfriend out of town. I mean, who is this guy? I'm terrified.**

### COLEEN SAYS

It's always nerve-racking because you want the parents to like you and to approve, but you can only be who you are. Your girlfriend loves you enough to want to introduce you to her aware they might ask you why your previous relationship didn't work or how you currently manage things with your son. Don't get defensive – just be honest. When I met my first in-laws, I could tell immediately that they were very formidable people, and I'd go so far as to say my former mum-in-law was scary as hell, but we ended up being great friends.
I just played along – I was polite, I didn't overreact to things I didn't agree with, and I was always respectful, but I was still myself. If you go in there trying to be someone you're not, and feeling very self-conscious, they'll see straight through it. Be yourself, be respectful to them and be lovely to their daughter. And don't drink too much.

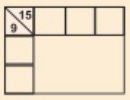
**—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror**

## SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

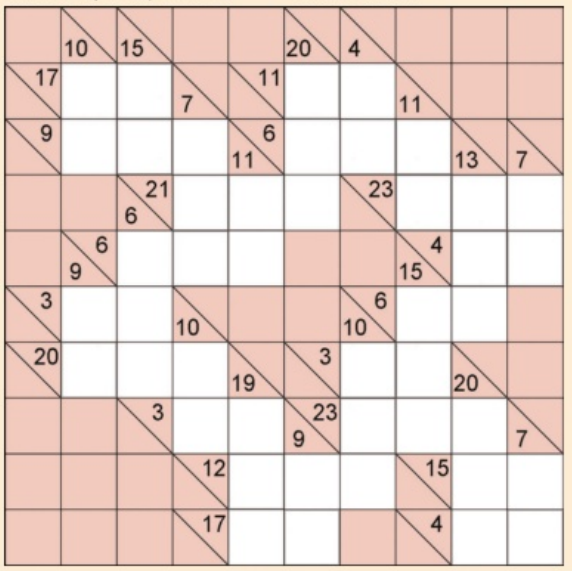
When speed of a car is increased by 25% time taken reduces by 12 minutes in covering a certain distance: what is the actual time taken to cover the same distance by actual speed?

## Kakuro

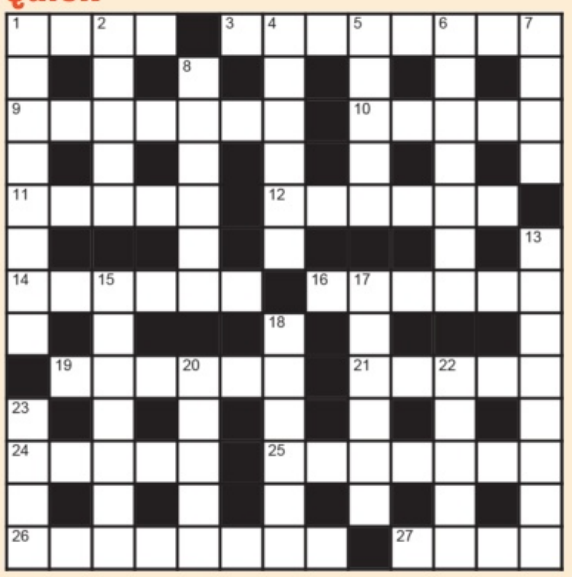
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.




Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

1 Cook in oven (4)
3 Incentive (8)
9 Name made up of initials (7)
10 Vast ages (5)
11 Satan or demon (5)
12 Set of clothes (6)
14 Waistbands (6)
16 ____ ahead : progressed rapidly? (6)
19 Evening meal (6)
21 Church levy (5)
24 City in North Karnataka (5)
25 Tuscan wine (7)
26 Raise one's ___ : look supercilious or shocked? (8)
27 Brood (4)

**DOWN**

1 Flatter and coax (8)
2 Russian ballet company (5)
4 Native drum (6)
5 Implied or signified (5)
6 Plundering, pillaging or robbery (7)
7 Frame (4)
8 Director of "Life of Pi" (3,3)
13 A glue (8)
15 Lose one's footing and trip? (7)
17 Get or procure (6)
18 Cow car broke for a Polish city? (6)
20 Previous (5)
22 Latin American dance (5)
23 Footwear (4)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: P EQUALS G**

TN GU GKTA DQATZ GU'JU JUKWS, GU'ZZ OU GKTATQP NEJ AMU JUFA EN EDJ ZTLUF.

## Linemaro

Do you believe in the hereafter? Well, then I guess you know what I'm here after

## Mindchow

Change your thoughts and you change your world

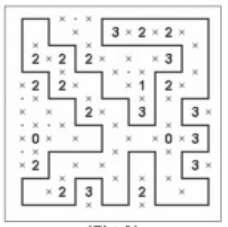
## Joke of the day

On a T-shirt: I get enough exercise just pushing my luck!

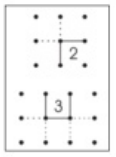
## Loop

### Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



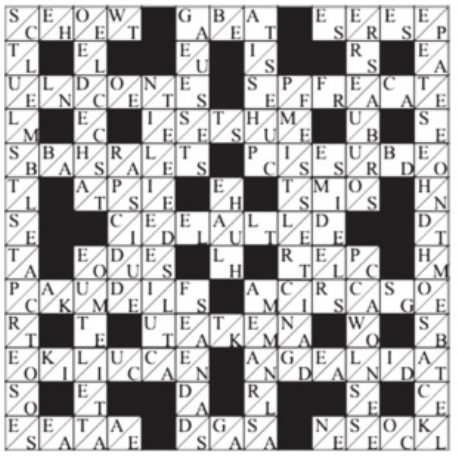
(Fig B) Not Allowed

### How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

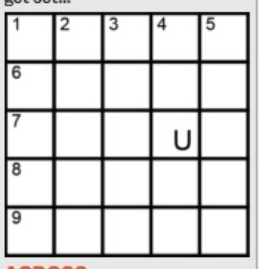
## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...




**ACROSS**

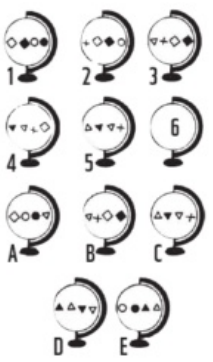
1 Air ma; 6 Meson; 7 Sinus; 8 A Argo; 9 Won Dy

**DOWN**

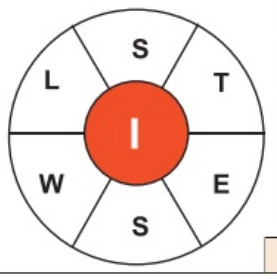
1 Nomad; 2 Mi Goa; 3 Worse; 4 Run-in; 5 Says a

## Mensapuzzle

Which globe at the bottom belongs to number 6?




## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

**10** Average; **11** Good; **13** Outstanding

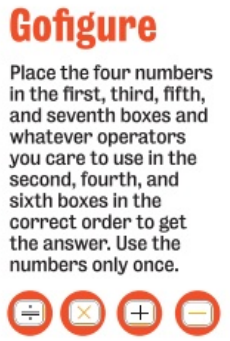
## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 3 | | 6 | 4 | 9 | | |
| | | | 3 | 1 | | | 8 | |
| | 1 | 5 | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | 6 | | | 5 | | |
| 8 | 5 | | 4 | | 2 | | 9 | 7 |
| | | 4 | | | 5 | | 2 | |
| | | | | | | 8 | 7 | |
| | 7 | | | 5 | 6 | | | |
| | | 1 | 8 | 4 | | 6 | | |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.




## Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

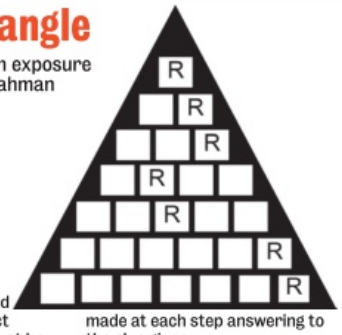
**Differences:** 1. Tail is smaller. 2. Arms are longer. 3. Pocket is different. 4. Log is different. 5. Earflap is longer. 6. Rabbit's ear is moved.

## Riddler

Each pair of definitions is for two words, where the second word is the first word with a letter deleted (example: brand & band). The length of the first word in each pair is provided, along with the position of the deleted letter to obtain the second word. 1) very small in size or amount (5 letters) & (delete 5th letter) to examine or look over carefully 2) the raised line that winds around a screw (6 letters) & (delete 2nd letter) to step or walk on or over

## Alpha triangle

1 A unit of radiation exposure
2 Music director Rahman
3 Boat need
4 Kind of exam
5 Yule ditty
6 Of the eye
7 Din




Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

# COMICS

## Redeye by Mel Casson

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
I CAME ACROSS WHAT I THOUGHT WAS A TREASURE MAP AND STARTED FOLLOWING IT
1-27
... TURNS OUT IT WAS A PAGE FROM A BOY SCOUTS HANDBOOK

## Bizarrotrip

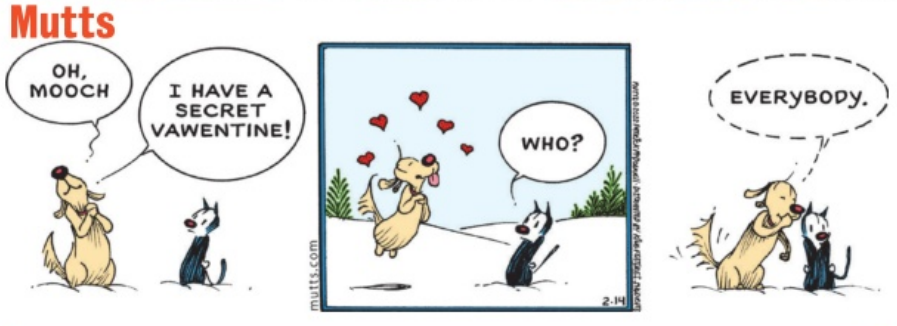
## Diamond Lil

## Hart of the city

## Crankshaft

I APPRECIATE THE TIME YOU TOOK TO READ MY MANUSCRIPT FOR ME.
I'M HERE TO LEARN... SO DON'T BE AFRAID TO BE BRUTAL.
ACTUALLY, LILLIAN... YOU'RE A WONDERFUL STORYTELLER, AND I ONLY HAVE A FEW TWEAKS.
NOT QUITE THAT BRUTAL.
2-3

## Mutts




# WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

**Aries** Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may plan to migrate from your current place to another. It is advised to think twice before taking decisions regarding migration or change of place. You may also plan to change your job. There will be peace in your mind. It is advised to avoid speculation in investments. Lovebirds should be patient before taking an important decision in terms of marriage.

**Taurus** Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may have good patience. Meditation may help you to increase concentration, which may help to speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you; it may help you to complete the project before timeline. You are likely to go on some short trips related to work. An influential person may help you to boost your network.

**Gemini** May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may be busy in family get-togethers and social events; you may become polite with the people around you which may increase your prestige among them. You may spend money in buying artefacts or household stuff which may improve your social status. You are likely to hear some good news from one of your relatives.

**Cancer** Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be happy and blessed by the moon; you may feel healthy which may reflect in your way of working. You may perform well in all areas of life, which may improve your prestige. Your concentration may be very good today; you may take some difficult decisions in your business in terms of growth.

**Leo** Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, your vitality may slow down; an old disease may reappear, which may make you upset. You are advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. You are advised to avoid any type of litigations; you may settle it out of court. You may also plan for an overseas tour.

**Virgo** Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may start your day with happiness. At work, you may take quick decisions, which may increase your management skills, which may give benefits in near future. You may expect some new source of income, which may boost your savings. With the help of your business partner, you may invest some amount in business.

**Libra** Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may be busy at your office. Due to mental fatigue, you may not be able to give time to your family. With the help of elder's blessings, job-seekers may get some high position in the job; managers may get promoted to top management. You may get rewards which may increase your status. Professionally, you may do better.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel some positive vibrations around you which may show you the right path; with the help of peace in your mind, your performance on every front may be noticeable. Your destiny is with you. You may plan to visit some religious place which is somehow far from your territory. Your inner sense may ask you to do some charity.

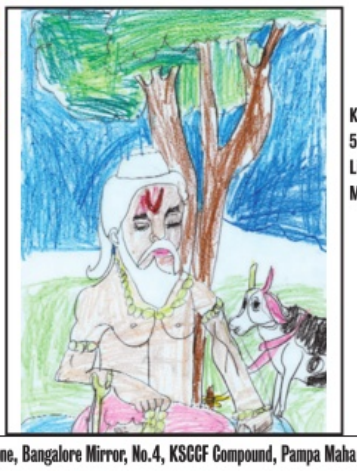
**Sagittarius** Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may feel some internal weakness. Some major health issues may reoccur. You may not be able to enjoy on the domestic and professional front. Ongoing projects may stop unexpectedly; it may make you upset. You are advised to drive safely. Elder's blessing may help you to come out from a messy situation.

**Capricorn** Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel positive vibrations around you. Things are under control. You may plan to start a new business in a partnership. You may expect some long-distance travel also. You will improve relations with your spouse, which will bring harmony in your domestic life.

**Aquarius** Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, is a good day for you. Investors may get good gains in their investments; it may boost your financial health. Money which was stuck may be recovered; it may increase liquidity in the business. You may become confident and control hidden enemies and opponents. Singles will find their match in the same field or workplace.

**Pisces** Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may feel dissatisfaction, you may not be able to fulfil your responsibilities. Your investments may give you some loss. You are advised to read documents carefully before putting your signature. Parents' health may make you upset. You may plan to reconstruct your office; it is advised to postpone renovation for some days.

## KIDZONE



Kamal Nandan BR, 5 Years, Little Millenium School

Mohammed Haris, 10 Years, St. Anns High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

# SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**
100*x=125(x-12);
=>100x=125x-1500;
25x=1500; x=60;
So, 60 minutes = 1 hour

**RIDDLER**
1) scant & scan,
2) thread & tread

**QUOTE UNCODE**
If we wait until we're ready, we'll be waiting for the rest of our lives.

**BULL'S EYE**
isle, islet, list, slit, site, stile, wile, wilt, wise, wisest, WITLESS

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | A | R | I | A |
| O | M | E | N | S |
| N | I | S | U | S |
| A | G | O | R | A |
| D | O | W | N | Y |

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | H | O | W | G | E | T | S | E | E | P | | | | |
| T | L | | U | | I | | R | | A | | | | | |
| U | N | D | O | N | E | E | F | F | E | C | T | | | |
| M | E | I | S | S | U | E | B | E | S | | | | | |
| B | A | S | A | L | T | P | S | E | U | D | O | | | |
| L | T | S | E | H | T | I | S | | N | | | | | |
| E | I | D | E | A | T | E | D | | T | | | | | |
| A | O | D | E | L | R | E | P | | H | | | | | |
| C | A | M | E | L | S | M | I | R | A | G | E | | | |
| R | E | T | A | K | E | N | W | E | B | | | | | |
| O | I | L | C | A | N | | A | G | E | N | D | A | | |
| U | N | I | T | | A | | E | | N | | | | | |
| S | A | T | E | | S | A | S | | N | E | C | K | | |

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | K | E | | S | T | I | M | U | L | U | S | | |
| L | I | | A | | O | | E | | O | | A | | | |
| A | C | R | O | N | Y | M | | A | E | O | N | S | | |
| N | | O | | G | | T | | N | | T | | H | | |
| D | E | V | I | L | | O | U | T | F | I | T | | | |
| I | | E | | M | | | | N | | | | A | | |
| S | A | S | H | E | S | | F | O | R | G | E | D | | |
| H | | T | | C | | B | | | | | | H | | |
| S | U | P | E | R | | T | I | T | H | E | | I | | |
| A | | A | | A | | R | | A | | A | | S | | |
| M | O | R | A | | A | G | E | N | D | A | | | | |
| S | | E | | H | | T | I | S | | N | | | | |
| A | L | T | E | R | E | G | O | | T | | | | | |
| S | E | A | | E | | D | | | | | | | | |
| E | | R | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**MENSA PUZZLE**
D. Examination of the previous globes shows that the globe is rotating left to right.

**ALPHA TRIANGLE**
R, AR, Oar, Oral, Carol, Ocular, Glamour.

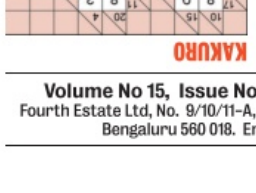
**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| 4 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 5 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 4 |
| 1 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| 8 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 7 |
| 2 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 8 |
| 9 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 5 |
| 7 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 2 |

**GO FIGURE**
Easy
4 – 9 + 6 + 9 = 10
Medium
6 + 2 + 6 X 3 = 42
Hard
8 – 4 + 2 + 9 = 15

**LOOP**

**KAKURO**



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# Don't talk to strangers

## Abhishek Bachchan reveals how wife Aishwarya comes to his rescue

Abhishek Bachchan recently opened up about being shy and conscious in situations where strangers are involved. The actor also revealed that in such situations his wife Aishwarya Rai steps in to help him.

Abhishek said in a recent interview that he is very conscious.

He revealed that he is very shy and needs somebody around him all the time.

If there isn't somebody to help him walk through the lobby of the hotel, he won't come in.

Abhishek also revealed that if he is shooting outdoors and is in a hotel, his wife Aishwarya knows that he hasn't eaten because the actor can't call room service. Aishwarya has to call room service; otherwise she knows he won't eat.

According to Abhishek, he has a problem speaking to a stranger on the phone.

Abhishek was last seen in the recently released film 'Dasvi' which also starred Nimrat Kaur and Yami Gautam in lead roles. The film was released on an OTT platform and has been receiving positive reviews from the audience and critics alike.

Aishwarya, on the other hand, will next be seen in Mani Ratnam's 'Ponniyin Selvan' where the actress will be seen essaying a double role for the first time.

Recently this film's first look was released and had created quite a ripple for Aishwarya's grand avatar.

The film also stars Vikram, Karthi, Jayam Ravi, Aishwarya Rai, Trisha, Vikram Prabhu, Prabhu, Jayaram, Aishwarya Lekshmi, Sarath Kumar, and others in key roles. —ETimes

## What Chris said

American comedian Chris Rock, during his recent stand-up show in California mocked politicians and lambasted celebrities, only subtly referencing the controversial moment at the 2022 Oscars when Will Smith slapped him.

According to Fox News, between the several digs he took at the royal family and even Hillary Clinton, the comedian said to the crowd that his hearing has returned however, he wouldn't further comment on the slap until he was properly paid.

"I'm OK, I have a whole show and I'm not talking about that until I get paid. Life is good. I got my hearing back," Rock said, as reported by a local news outlet.

At the conclusion of Friday's show, the comedian even received a standing ovation from the crowd.

Earlier that same day, the Academy's Board of Governors announced they were banning Smith from all events and awards appearances under the Oscars title for 10 years. Responding to the band, in a statement, the actor said, "I accept and respect the academy's decision."

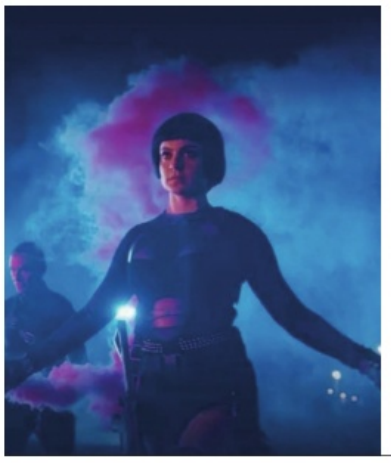
## 'Nothing like that'

Commenting on the rising popularity of south films in the Bollywood-ruled north India, superstar Ajay Devgn on Monday said the reason behind the success of the non-Hindi movies here is the pan India promotional strategy.

When asked that southern audiences are yet to warm up to the films from the north, Devgn said, "It's nothing like that." The 53-year-old actor-director, who recently featured in a pivotal role in the pan India blockbuster "RRR", said filmmakers from the south plan the script of their films to reach out to audiences beyond language barriers.

"It's not that films from here (north) are not going to the south). In my opinion, nobody has attempted to release a film from the north down south on a big scale. "If someone will try in future, it will definitely happen because their films are good and are doing well here. Our films too are working. If they have to release the films in the north, they take actors from the north also and they plan the script so that it works pan India," Devgn said. PTI

## Seven times the Kangana effect



The teaser of Kangana Ranaut's Dhaakad is expected to set a new benchmark on women performing action on the big screen. Ranaut has left no stone unturned in ensuring that each look and combat scene that features her is better than even what international films boast of. As Agent Agni, Ranaut will stun audiences with her 7 different looks and multiple combat scenes which have been designed and choreographed by international technicians.

Some of the glimpses that are already out have created a stir amongst the fans and they have been waiting with bated breath for what will be unveiled next! Audiences will see Ranaut donning avatars which is sure to leave them spellbound. Ranaut will be seen in unique hairdos and in combat attire showcasing her warrior avatar. Not only does the teaser launch on digital tomorrow, fans will now also witness the action-packed first look on the big screen as it will be attached to KGF: Chapter 2

Director Razneesh Ghai adds, "A new action star is on the rise, with Dhaakad, Kangana truly becomes the master of disguises. Each look is unique and we've never seen Kangana do action like this before." The first Indian female spy had to look novel. The film showcases Kangana seamlessly transforming into her various avatars. —ETimes

## It is shape-shifting actors that Ranveer looks up to

Actor Ranveer Singh, who is gearing up for the release of his next film 'Jayeshbhai Jordaar', recently shared that it was the joy of transforming into a small-time Gujarati businessman that drew the actor to the upcoming social comedy.

The actor said, "I have a personal ambition to never be typecast and it's a tough one but I choose my scripts quite cleverly. Jayeshbhai Jordaar presented me with a huge opportunity to play a character with no reference point all over again. I think I really manifest these roles into my life." The star, who is clear that he doesn't want to get typecast in the industry and among audiences, shared that he's inspired by actors like Daniel Day-Lewis. He said, "I'm deeply inspired by the shape-shifting, chameleon-like actors across the world like Daniel Day-Lewis. So, I look forward to metamorphosis with every film. I have done this since my first time to my last release 83, in which I became the legendary Kapil Dev."

Ranveer added that, for him tthe best thing about being an actor is that one can live so many lives. ANI